

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 SS-20 NSCE-00 MC-02 EB-11 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4460

INFO USMISSION NATO

CINCLANT

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS MARR CA EIND EAIR

SUBJ CANADA SEEKS MULTI-PURPOSE MILITARY JET

REF OTTAWA A-358, JULY 22

1. TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL ON SEPT 10 IN STORY HEADLINED "OTTAWA WANTS TO PICK COMBAT PLANE FOR DEAL THAT COULD COST \$1 BILLION" REPORTS THAT GOC DEFENCE MINISTRY IS LOOKING FOR A MULTI-PURPOSE COMBAT AIRCRAFT, WITH THE INTENTION TO PURCHASE AS MANY AS 150 AT A COST OF MORE THAN \$1 BILLION. THE PLANE, THE ARTICLE INDICATES, "PROBABLY WILL BE PRODUCED IN CANADA," AND IT WILL PROBABLY BE "1977 OR 1978 BEFORE A CONTRACT IS AWARDED." THE PLANES WOULD REPLACE THE CF-101, CF-5 AND CF-104.

2. APPARENTLY, THE GOC IS CONSIDERING THE GRUMMAN F-14, THE MCDONNELL DOUGLAS F-15, THE GENERAL DYNAMICS F-16, THE NORTHROP F-17, SWEDEN'S SAAB VIGGEN, FRANCE'S DASSAULT G8 MIRAGE, AND "A VERSION OF A COMBAT AIRCRAFT DEVELOPED JOINTLY BY BRITAIN, GERMANY AND ITALY."

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3. ONE FACTOR IN THE DECISION IS WHETHER THE MANUFACTURER AGREES TO PRODUCE IT IN CANADA UNDER LICENSE. THE EUROPEAN AIRCRAFT ALLEGEDLY ARE AT A DISADVANTAGE SINCE THEY LACK THE RANGE SOUGHT BY THE CANADIANS. THE POSSIBILITY OF A JOINT PROCUREMENT PROGRAM WITH SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IS ALSO SUGGESTED IN THE ARTICLE.

4. COMMENT: GLOBE & MAIL ARTICLE IS SIMILAR IN THEME TO THAT BY CLIVE BAXTER FORWARDED AS ENCLOSURE TO REFAIR. HOWEVER, THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY SPECIFIC PUBLIC INDICATION FROM GOC AS TO ITS PROCUREMENT INTENTIONS NOR TO THE RELATIONSHIP OF THESE INTENTIONS TO ITS PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AEROSPACE INDUSTRY. THE CANADAIR PLANT AT MONTREAL PROBABLY WOULD BE A MAJOR SITE FOR PRODUCTION OF A NEXT GENERATION FIGHTER AIRCRAFT OR FOR CANADA'S SHARE OF COOPERATIVE PRODUCTION. HOWEVER, NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOC AND GENERAL DYNAMICS ARE PROCEEDING SLOWLY, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, WHICH IDENTIFY PRICE AS A MAJOR ISSUE.
PORTER

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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